

## Case 3086

***Hyalinia villae adamii* Westerlund, 1886 (currently *Oxychilus adamii*; Mollusca, Gastropoda): proposed conservation of the specific name *adamii* by replacing the syntypes with a neotype**

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**Abstract.** The purpose of this application is to conserve the current usage and understanding of the name *Oxychilus adamii* (Westerlund, 1886) for an Alpine species of pulmonate gastropod (family ZONITIDAE). The two syntypes of *O. adamii* are specimens of the congeneric, smaller species *O. mortilleti* (Pfeiffer, 1859), also from the Alpine region. It is proposed that the original type material of *O. adamii* be replaced with a neotype which accords with the established interpretation of the species.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Gastropoda; pulmonates; ZONITIDAE; Alps; *Oxychilus adamii*.

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1. Westerlund (1886, p. 48) introduced the nominal taxon *Hyalinia villae adamii* from 'Lombardei b. Esino' with a brief description. The name *adamii* was established for a 'variety' but it was later used as the valid name of a subspecies of *Oxychilus villae* (Pfeiffer, 1857) by Alzona (1971, p. 125), and as the name of a distinct species by Riedel (1980, p. 99; 1998, p. 48), Kerney, Cameron & Jungbluth (1983, p. 171), Turner et al. (1998, p. 275) and Kerney, Cameron & Bertrand (1999, p. 217).

2. The original type material consists of two syntypes and is kept in the Westerlund collection (no. 124) at the Naturhistoriska Museet, Göteborg, Sweden. The type locality 'Esino' as reported by Westerlund (1886; para. 1 above) differs from that given on the label accompanying the type material, which reads 'Italia, Edolo'. However, L. Forcart (unpublished) noted that 'Esino' was 'Esine', a small village near Edolo in Val Camonica, not 'Esino Lario', a locality near the Lake of Lecco. We consider that Forcart was correct because G.B. Adami, who sent the material to Westerlund, spent a period in Val Camonica and devoted a paper to the molluscs of this valley (Adami, 1876). In the 1876 paper Adami frequently mentioned 'Esine', though he only collected specimens of *Hyalina cellaria* Müller, 1774 there and not of *H. villae*.

3. The syntypes in Göteborg are not conspecific with *Oxychilus adamii* as interpreted by authors since the name was adopted for a species-group taxon (see paras. 1 and 5), but with the congeneric, smaller and less flat species *O. mortilleti* (Pfeiffer, 1859), also from the Alpine region (see our paper, Giusti & Manganelli, 1999). This was also ascertained by A. Riedel (Warsaw, Poland) in 1968, as demonstrated by his hand written label accompanying the syntypes. In an unpublished revision the late L. Forcart was responsible for misinterpreting the name

*Hyalinia villae adamii*, despite the fact that he had examined Westerlund's syntypes. This misinterpretation was later adopted by Riedel (1980), who noted 'Anatomie von Forcart und Riedel untersucht, nicht publiziert' ['Anatomy studied by Forcart and Riedel, not published'], and unknowingly by Kerney, Cameron & Jungbluth (1983). Although we became aware of the misinterpretation in 1984 we preferred to maintain Westerlund's name for the species (see Manganelli, Bodon, Favilli & Giusti, 1995). The two species are placed in distinct subgenera, *O. (Mediterranea) adamii* and *O. (Oxychilus) mortilleti*.

4. Recognition of the syntypes of *Oxychilus adamii* (Westerlund, 1886) as specimens of *O. mortilleti* (Pfeiffer, 1859) results in the specific name *adamii* becoming a junior subjective synonym of *mortilleti* and, in the absence of a Commission ruling, a new name would be required for the taxon called *adamii* in recent decades. In order to conserve the name *adamii* in the current sense we propose that the type status of the two syntypes should be set aside, and that a neotype be designated in accord with the accepted use of the name. The proposed neotype was collected in Val Seriana, Valle Asnina, at 400–500 metres above sea level (municipality of Cene, province of Bergamo, Italy, UTM References 32T NR 6671) and is in the Museo Zoologico de 'La Specola', Sezione del Museo di Storia Naturale dell'Università di Firenze, Italy, specimen no. MZUF 13735. It was not possible to collect a specimen for neotype selection from the original type locality, the Val Camonica, because this is outside the known range of *Oxychilus adamii* as currently understood. A complete description and illustrations of *O. adamii* and of the proposed neotype specimen have been given by us (Giusti & Manganelli, 1999).

5. In May 1998 Dr Adolf Riedel (*Museum and Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warszawa, Poland*) wrote (in litt.): 'I strongly support this application, which is in accord with the Code in that it promotes stability in the usage of a name. The name *Oxychilus adamii*, in the sense of Alzona (1971), Kerney, Cameron & Jungbluth (1983) and myself (Riedel, 1980), should be conserved for the sake of stability. The name was not used during the last years of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. In the second half of the 20th century it has been used only in the sense of Forcart, and never in the sense of the original publication by Westerlund (1886)'.

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary power to set aside all previous type fixations for the nominal species *Hyalinia adamii* Westerlund, 1886 and to designate as neotype the specimen no. MZUF 13735 in the Museo Zoologico de 'La Specola', Sezione del Museo di Storia Naturale dell'Università di Firenze, Italy;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *adamii* Westerlund, 1886, as published in the trinomen *Hyalinia villae adamii* and as defined by the neotype designated in (1) above.

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